



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/646,796	11/21/2000	Aravinda Korala	2000-011	1579

23521 7590 05/02/2006

SALTAMAR INNOVATIONS
30 FERN LANE
SOUTH PORTLAND, ME 04106

EXAMINER

HAMILTON, LALITA M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

3624

DATE MAILED: 05/02/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/646,796

Applicant(s)

KORALA, ARAVINDA

Examiner

Lalita M Hamilton

Art Unit

3624

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
 - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 October 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 34-79, 83-88 and 91-111 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 34-79, 83-88 and 91-111 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>12172005</u> | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Request for Continued Examination (RCE)

The RCE filed on October 28, 2005 has been entered. A new non-final action follows.

Claim Objections

Claims 34, 68, and 106 are objected to because of the following informalities: The do not have appropriate status identifiers (i.e. currently amended). Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 34-79, 83-88, 91-105, and 110-111 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Ganesan (6,856,974).

Ganeson discloses an electronic bill presentment method and corresponding system comprising operating a computer based transaction machine controlled by at least one software application to effect a transaction service for an end user, interacting said software application with a functional interface of a middleware software which

Art Unit: 3624

extends the functionality of a computer operating system by providing functional interface for the computer operating system to be written to, the computer operating system providing control functions of said computer based transaction machine and the functional interface providing an ability to cooperate with a dissimilar network; functional interface provides functionality adapted to the particular hardware of said transaction machine and said transaction device by interrogating the computer based transaction machine to determine capability of the at least one transaction device and dynamically configuring the transaction services based on capability (col.2, line 50 to col.4, line 5; col.6, line 29 to col.7, line 30; col.7, line 68 to col.8, line 26; col.10, lines 10-35; col.11, lines 19-61; and col.16, lines 15-21); transaction machine further comprises a data communications interface and wherein said transaction machine is adapted to communicate over said data communications interface (col.2, line 50 to col.4, line 5); the transaction machine is selected from a group consisting of an automatic teller machine, an electronic kiosk and an electronic point of sale machine (col.7, lines 10-55—may be a kiosk); middleware software comprises a series of transaction objects and controls for performing standardized device functions (col.2, line 50 to col.4, line 5; col.6, line 29 to col.7, line 30; col.7, line 68 to col.8, line 26; col.10, lines 10-35; col.11, lines 19-61; and col.16, lines 15-21); transaction machine further comprises a customizable user interface (col.2, line 50 to col.4, line 5; col.6, line 29 to col.7, line 30; col.7, line 68 to col.8, line 26; col.10, lines 10-35; col.11, lines 19-61; and col.16, lines 15-21); transaction objects are independent of said user interface (col.2, line 50 to col.4, line 5; col.6, line 29 to col.7, line 30; col.7, line 68 to col.8, line 26; col.10, lines 10-35;

col.11, lines 19-61; and col.16, lines 15-21); a plurality of controls, at least one of which comprises a capabilities interface (col.2, line 50 to col.4, line 5; col.6, line 29 to col.7, line 30; col.7, line 68 to col.8, line 26; col.10, lines 10-35; col.11, lines 19-61; and col.16, lines 15-21); the capabilities interface can communicate the capabilities of the control (col.2, line 50 to col.4, line 5; col.6, line 29 to col.7, line 30; col.7, line 68 to col.8, line 26; col.10, lines 10-35; col.11, lines 19-61; and col.16, lines 15-21); applications, objects and controls are concurrently operable (col.2, line 50 to col.4, line 5; col.6, line 29 to col.7, line 30; col.7, line 68 to col.8, line 26; col.10, lines 10-35; col.11, lines 19-61; and col.16, lines 15-21); controls are constructed with an event generating capability and wherein a said controls are operable in a selectable mode in which said events are queued up and delivered to an application on demand (col.2, line 50 to col.4, line 5; col.6, line 29 to col.7, line 30; col.7, line 68 to col.8, line 26; col.10, lines 10-35; col.11, lines 19-61; and col.16, lines 15-21); middleware software is adapted to provide service in accordance with at least one software standard for interacting with different hardware systems (col.2, line 50 to col.4, line 5; col.6, line 29 to col.7, line 30; col.7, line 68 to col.8, line 26; col.10, lines 10-35; col.11, lines 19-61; and col.16, lines 15-21); all errors and transgressions are asserted by the middleware software (col.2, line 50 to col.4, line 5; col.6, line 29 to col.7, line 30; col.7, line 68 to col.8, line 26; col.10, lines 10-35; col.11, lines 19-61; and col.16, lines 15-21); the step of the middleware software writing trace data to memory and then copies it to disk only when the transaction machine is idle (col.2, line 50 to col.4, line 5; col.6, line 29 to col.7, line 30; col.7, line 68 to col.8, line 26; col.10, lines 10-35; col.11, lines 19-61; and col.16, lines 15-21); a web browser

Art Unit: 3624

(col.3, lines 25-35); at least one software application is operable from within said web browser environment (col.2, line 50 to col.4, line 5; col.6, line 29 to col.7, line 30; col.7, line 68 to col.8, line 26; col.10, lines 10-35; col.11, lines 19-61; and col.16, lines 15-21); web browser provides support for software distribution (col.2, line 50 to col.4, line 5; col.6, line 29 to col.7, line 30; col.7, line 68 to col.8, line 26; col.10, lines 10-35; col.11, lines 19-61; and col.16, lines 15-21); a web browser frame containing at least one device control operable to detect events which must be responded to upon occurrence (col.2, line 50 to col.4, line 5; col.6, line 29 to col.7, line 30; col.7, line 68 to col.8, line 26; col.10, lines 10-35; col.11, lines 19-61; and col.16, lines 15-21); web browser is adapted to communicate with conventional web sites to be displayed by the computer-based transaction machine (col.2, line 50 to col.4, line 5; col.6, line 29 to col.7, line 30; col.7, line 68 to col.8, line 26; col.10, lines 10-35; col.11, lines 19-61; and col.16, lines 15-21); the computer-based transaction machine is adapted to allow the software applications and middleware to be altered across a network by an authority (col.2, line 50 to col.4, line 5; col.6, line 29 to col.7, line 30; col.7, line 68 to col.8, line 26; col.10, lines 10-35; col.11, lines 19-61; and col.16, lines 15-21); the transaction machine is adapted to communicate status information to a remote station (col.2, line 50 to col.4, line 5; col.6, line 29 to col.7, line 30; col.7, line 68 to col.8, line 26; col.10, lines 10-35; col.11, lines 19-61; and col.16, lines 15-21); at least one of said transaction objects provide, separately or in combination with other transaction objects and controls, encapsulation of software logic required for performing at least a portion of a transaction (col.2, line 50 to col.4, line 5; col.6, line 29 to col.7, line 30; col.7, line 68 to col.8, line

26; col.10, lines 10-35; col.11, lines 19-61; and col.16, lines 15-21); at least one of said controls is a device control, providing abstraction of details of a device controlled by said device control (col.2, line 50 to col.4, line 5; col.6, line 29 to col.7, line 30; col.7, line 68 to col.8, line 26; col.10, lines 10-35; col.11, lines 19-61; and col.16, lines 15-21); step of creating a separate thread for each of a plurality of controls (col.2, line 50 to col.4, line 5; col.6, line 29 to col.7, line 30; col.7, line 68 to col.8, line 26; col.10, lines 10-35; col.11, lines 19-61; and col.16, lines 15-21); the step of enabling said application program to communicate over said communication interface through a control (col.2, line 50 to col.4, line 5; col.6, line 29 to col.7, line 30; col.7, line 68 to col.8, line 26; col.10, lines 10-35; col.11, lines 19-61; and col.16, lines 15-21); middleware software provides generic error handlers (col.2, line 50 to col.4, line 5; col.6, line 29 to col.7, line 30; col.7, line 68 to col.8, line 26; col.10, lines 10-35; col.11, lines 19-61; and col.16, lines 15-21); configuring a plurality of transaction machines, and wherein configuration data for said step of configuring is centrally held in a distribution file (col.2, line 50 to col.4, line 5; col.6, line 29 to col.7, line 30; col.7, line 68 to col.8, line 26; col.10, lines 10-35; col.11, lines 19-61; and col.16, lines 15-21); constructing said user interface using common web authoring tools (col.2, line 50 to col.4, line 5; col.6, line 29 to col.7, line 30; col.7, line 68 to col.8, line 26; col.10, lines 10-35; col.11, lines 19-61; and col.16, lines 15-21); the operating system is Microsoft Windows NT (col.2, line 50 to col.4, line 5; col.6, line 29 to col.7, line 30; col.7, line 68 to col.8, line 26; col.10, lines 10-35; col.11, lines 19-61; and col.16, lines 15-21); at least one transaction device, having a set of capabilities inherent thereto, an operating system to communicate with, and control said

transaction device, at least one software application having a user interface, and adapted for execution under control of said operating system, middleware software adapted to interact with said operating system and with said software application, said middleware software having a functional interface adapted to provide an interface to particular hardware capabilities of said transaction machine, and, wherein said middleware software further comprising an application programming interface adapted to provide communication and control services with said transaction device to said software application (col.2, line 50 to col.4, line 5; col.6, line 29 to col.7, line 30; col.7, line 68 to col.8, line 26; col.10, lines 10-35; col.11, lines 19-61; and col.16, lines 15-21); one or more networking means and one or more application servers (col.2, line 50 to col.4, line 5; col.6, line 29 to col.7, line 30; col.7, line 68 to col.8, line 26; col.10, lines 10-35; col.11, lines 19-61; and col.16, lines 15-21); an extranet formed by combining a plurality of networks o computer-based transaction machines to the above claim (col.2, line 50 to col.4, line 5; col.6, line 29 to col.7, line 30; col.7, line 68 to col.8, line 26; col.10, lines 10-35; col.11, lines 19-61; and col.16, lines 15-21); an extranet according to the above claim provided with a security mechanism which limits the hardware functionality available to individual software applications (col.2, line 50 to col.4, line 5; col.6, line 29 to col.7, line 30; col.7, line 68 to col.8, line 26; col.10, lines 10-35; col.11, lines 19-61; and col.16, lines 15-21); operating by a first organization a computer based transaction machine controlled by at least one software application to affect a transaction service, wherein said software application is provided by a second organization, wherein said software application provides an transaction type different

Art Unit: 3624

than the transaction type associated with said first organization (col.2, line 50 to col.4, line 5; col.6, line 29 to col.7, line 30; col.7, line 68 to col.8, line 26; col.10, lines 10-35; col.11, lines 19-61; and col.16, lines 15-21); at least one software standard is selected from a group consisting of WOSA XFS, OPOS, OFX, TOPEND, ActiveX, Javabeans, SNMP or at least one of said controls implements an OFX interface or a portion thereof, to facilitate communication with an OFX server (col.11, lines 20-61); middleware software comprising a plurality of COM components having a scriptable ActiveX interface (col.11, lines 20-61); middleware software comprising a plurality of Javabeans components having scriptable interfaces (col.11, lines 20-61); middleware software allows or disallows access to particular web sites according to a rule database (col.2, line 50 to col.4, line 5; col.6, line 29 to col.7, line 30; col.7, line 68 to col.8, line 26; col.10, lines 10-35; col.11, lines 19-61; and col.16, lines 15-21); middleware software is adapted to customize time-out of the display of individual internet web sites (col.2, line 50 to col.4, line 5; col.6, line 29 to col.7, line 30; col.7, line 68 to col.8, line 26; col.10, lines 10-35; col.11, lines 19-61; and col.16, lines 15-21); creating an event thread associated with each transaction service for insuring that device states persist from one application page to another (col.2, line 50 to col.4, line 5; col.6, line 29 to col.7, line 30; col.7, line 68 to col.8, line 26; col.10, lines 10-35; col.11, lines 19-61; and col.16, lines 15-21); and encapsulating essential software logic of the transaction services so that an associated user interface is freely defined (col.2, line 50 to col.4, line 5; col.6, line 29 to col.7, line 30; col.7, line 68 to col.8, line 26; col.10, lines 10-35; col.11, lines 19-61; and col.16, lines 15-21).

Claims 106-109 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Eaton (6,003,019).

Eaton discloses a multi-transaction service method comprising operating, by a first organization, a computer based automated teller machine of a first network, the computer based automated teller machine having a data communication interface, a display device, an input device, and at least one transaction device adapted for user Identification executing a software application on said computer based automated teller machine, said software application being adapted to issue tickets for events or services provided by a second organization through a second network, wherein the second network is dissimilar to the first network and the software application allows cooperation directly therebetween, and automatically charging a user account for said ticket utilizing facilities provided by said automated teller machine (col.1, lines 40-60 and col.3, line 5 to col.5, line 5); tickets are selected from a list comprising airline tickets, cinema tickets and theatre tickets (col.1, lines 40-60 and col.3, line 5 to col.5, line 5); operating, by a first organization, a computer based kiosk having a data communication interface, a display device, an input device, and at least one transaction device adapted for user identification, executing a software application on said computer based kiosk, said software application being adapted to issue tickets for events or services provided by a second organization, and automatically charging a user account for said ticket utilizing facilities provided by said kiosk (col.1, lines 40-60 and col.3, line 5 to col.5, line 5); and tickets are selected from a list comprising airline tickets, cinema tickets and theatre tickets (col.1, lines 40-60 and col.3, line 5 to col.5, line 5).

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 34-79, 83-88, and 91-111 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lalita M Hamilton whose telephone number is (703) 306-5715. The examiner can normally be reached on Tuesday-Thursday (8:30-4:30).

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



LMH